

Congress can help **protect the environment and public health** by investing no less than **\$1.64 billion the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program** and no less than **\$1.13 billion in the Drinking Water SRF Program in FY 2024**, and by **funding clean water and drinking water earmarks on top of and in addition to** *rather than from within* **funding for SRF capitalization grants.**

As climate change accelerates, and its adverse impacts on water resources increase, it is vitally important that the nation invest in water recycling to build resilience, manage energy demands, support public and environmental health, and ensure economic prosperity.

The SRF programs are used across all 50 states and in communities of all sizes to help communities make important investments, all while maintaining affordable rates for critical services. Over the past 35 years, the SRF programs have funded hundreds of water recycling projects across the country.

Investments in water reuse:

- Compare favorably to other options for providing new water supplies by often using less energy and generating fewer air pollution emissions.
- Ensure reliable and resilient community water supplies in the face of increasingly frequent, severe and prolonged droughts, wildfire, and other climate-related risks by



drawing on a stable, locally generated and controlled water source.

- Support sustainable economic prosperity, advanced clean manufacturing, and wellpaying high-skill employment opportunities by providing business and industry with a reliable, long-term supply of water.
- Protect our rivers, lakes and streams—as well as America's aquifers and wetlands—by reducing extractive water demands, reducing nutrient and other pollutant loads, and providing high quality water for replenishing groundwater and riparian base flows.

We urge you to provide no less than \$1.64 billion for the Clean Water SRF and no less than \$1.13 billion for the Drinking Water SRF in FY 2024. We further urge you to fund clean water and drinking water earmarks on top of *rather than from within* funding for SRF capitalization grants.

The House FY 2024 Interior-Environment Appropriations bill reduces funding for the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF Programs by 67 percent and 59 percent, respectively. The cuts proposed in the House bill would severely limit communities' ability to access financing for water recycling and other water infrastructure projects. Moreover, Congress' current approach of funding earmarks from within the SRF capitalization grants budget is undermining states' ability to operate and maintain viable revolving loan programs.